



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE MEDIUM TILTROTOR SQUADRON 264
VMM-264 DET A
UIC 77072
FPO AE 09510-7072

Black Knight Families,
March 2011

As I type this update, your Marines have just concluded their sixtieth day of combat operations in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. Achieving this milestone without a serious aviation or ground mishap is a testimony to the quiet professionalism of the Black Knights and, as always, could not have happened without the support you provide them from home. Your sacrifice is simply a huge part of what we do, and I hope you feel a part of the important mission our country has undertaken here. For those of you with family members in the maintenance department, their tireless efforts continue to provide safe, mission-ready aircraft where and when they are needed. Consequently, I have recently had the honor of approving several citations and awards for those whose performance has been particularly exceptional, and we've listed their names in this month's newsletter.

As you're probably aware, new units routinely rotate in and out of this theater of operations. To us this means more requests for movement and an overall higher operational tempo. Combined with increasing temperatures as we move into Spring, the work load will increase, and the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force will be asking more of the squadron. All of our previous training, the time away, and the long hours has prepared us well; these Marines are ready to meet the challenge. The work they do here saves lives every day, and is keeping with the best traditions of the United States Marine Corps.

Semper Fi,
LtCol Jeff Hogan
Commanding Officer, VMM-264
Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan